

Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

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FOR PACKER OES/SCI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, PEDINI, MARIO

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MINISTER PEDINI, MINISTRY OF RESEARCH TO U.S.

1. MINISTRY OF RESEARCH CALLED SCIATT ON OCT 6 TO REQUEST ASSISTANCE IN THE PROCESSING OF 8 VISA APPLICATIONS FOR MINISTER OF RESEARCH AND HIS STAFF TO DEPART ROME ON OCT 10 FOR URGENT MEETING AT NASA, WASHINGTON.

2. SCIATT, UNAWARE OF PLANNING ACTIVITIES FOR THIS MEETING, INQUIRED AS TO PURPOSE OF THE TRIP AND RECEIVED "I DON'T KNOW" RESPONSE. LATER IN THE AFTERNOON CHIEF OF CABINET OF MINISTRY OF RESEARCH, DR. MANCINI, CALLED TO APOLOGIZE FOR SUDDEN DEPARTURE OF MIN. PEDINI BUT COULD NOT THROW ANY LIGHT ON THE REASON.

3. WE ARE CONFUSED AND SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSED BECAUSE PEDINI WILL NOW CANCEL HIS ATTENDANCE AT A LUNCH FOR DR. STEVER, DIRECTOR OF THE NSF WHO WILL BE MEETING WITH TOP LEVEL ITALIAN SCIENTIFIC PEOPLE.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE FROM THE DEPARTMENT BACKGROUND ON THE NASA-PEDINI MEETING WITH RATIONALE FOR SUCH HIGH LEVEL OF SECRECY. VOLPE

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